

REMARKS

In the Office Action of January 11, 2005, the Examiner had withdrawn rejections of claims 22, 44-49, 54-63 and 69-102 under Nevo and Marshall, of which claims 22 and 69 are in independent form. Claims 22 and 34-102 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 and claims 34-43, 50-52 and 64-68 remain rejected over Nevo and Marshall, of which claim 34 is in independent form. Applicants hereby respond to the Office Action based on the following remarks.

While the Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner pertaining to the rejections under Nevo and Marshall, in an effort to advance prosecution of the case, independent claim 34 has been canceled without prejudice and Applicants reserve the right to pursue the claim in a continuing application. In view of the amendment, claims 35, 37-42, 44, 50-52, 54-56, and 59-68 that were previously dependent on claim 34 have been amended to depend from independent claim 22. No new matter was added.

Furthermore, while the Applicants believe the claims, as previously written, were within the technological arts, the presently pending independent claims, 22 and 69, have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 for sake of advancement towards an allowance. The amendments are submitted without prejudice to the Applicants' ability to pursue the previously claimed subject matter in a continuing application. In addition to being directed to a computer based method in an electronic trading environment, the amended claim 22 now calls for "displaying a plurality of book axes on a screen associated with a computing device," "displaying a value axis in relation to the plurality of book axes on the screen," "and displaying indicators on the screen..." Similarly, amended claim 69 now calls for displaying the indicators for the first and second products "on a screen associated with a computing device." Presently pending dependent claims 35-52 and 54-104 depend from either independent claim 22 or 69 and are allowable for similar reasons.

Support for "screen" and "computing device" can be found throughout Applicants' specification. For instance, "computing device" has support on page 10, lines 14-15, and "screen" has support on page 31, lines 17-19. In addition, Applicants

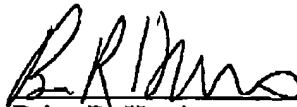
have added new claims 103 and 104, which depend from independent claims 22 and 69, respectively, to further limit screen. No new matter was added.

In summary, it is respectfully submitted that presently pending claims 22, 35-52, and 54-104 are in proper form and that Applicants have addressed the Examiner's rejections. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 22, 35-52, and 54-104 are in condition of allowance and that this application should be passed on to issuance. If the Examiner has any other matters which remain, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Mark Triplett at (312) 476-1151.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 7, 2005

By :


Brian R. Harris
Reg. No. 45,900